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ACTION: ~~FOUO~~ INFO: AMB DCM ~~FOUO~~ USIS CHRON 7CDW

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0890

INFO RUEHKK/EC COLLECTIVE

RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0705

RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1010

RUDKSDQ/AMEMBASSY LISBON 3966

RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 0213-215

RUESNA/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 0412

RUFEGV/USMISSION GENEVA 5664

RUEEDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3398

BT

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USEC

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EP, AR, UY, SHUM, PEPR

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT PASSES RESOLUTIONS ON
HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA AND URUGUAY

1. SUMMARY. DURING ITS STRASBOURG PLENARY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (EP) ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ARGENTINA (THE EP EXPRESSED SHOCK AT THE RECENT DISCOVERIES OF "HUNDREDS OF UNIDENTIFIED CORPSES," CONDEMNED "THESE INTOLERABLE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS," AND CALLED ON EC MEMBER STATES TO MAKE "FORMAL REPRESENTATIONS AND VIGOROUS PROTESTS TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO PUT AN END TO THESE PRACTICES AND PROVIDE FORTHWITH DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FATE OF THOSE WHO ARE IN PRISON OR HAVE DISAPPEARED") AND URUGUAY (THE EP EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT "THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION HAS DETERIORATED" WITH MORE THAN 1,000 "PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE" BEING HELD AND FOUR MAJOR NEWSPAPERS CLOSED, CALLED ON THE GOV "TO RELEASE ALL POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION PRISONERS" AND URGED "URGENT STEPS PERMITTING A RETURN TO A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, PARTICULARLY BY RECONSTITUTING THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PARTIES"). END SUMMARY.

2. ON NOVEMBER 18, THE EP ADOPTED BY UNRECORDED VOTES TWO RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA AND URUGUAY. MISSION OFFICER PRESENT AT THE STRASBOURG PLENARY OBSERVED NO OPPOSITION AMONG THE APPROXIMATELY 180 EURO-MP'S PRESENT. THE RESOLUTIONS IN QUESTION WERE CONSIDERED UNDER EP PROCEDURE WHICH SETS ASIDE THREE HOURS OF EACH MONTH'S PLENARY FOR "TOPICAL AND URGENT DEBATE." UNDER THIS PROCEDURE, EP COMMITTEES DO NOT CONSIDER THE ISSUE PRIOR TO EP ACTION, AS IS OTHERWISE CUSTOMARY. RESOLUTION ON URUGUAY WAS SPONSORED BY ITALIAN EURO-MP PIETRO LEZZI AND A FEW OTHER SOCIALISTS BUT ARGENTINE RESOLUTION WAS A COMPROMISE TEXT CO-SPONSORED BY FOUR OF THE EP'S SIX MAJOR POLITICAL GROUPS,

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

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INCLUDING THE SOCIALISTS (125 MEMBERS), CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (117 MEMBERS), COMMUNIST AND ALLIES (48 MEMBERS) AND LIBERALS (38 MEMBERS). THE BRITISH CONSERVATIVES (63 MEMBERS) AND EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS (22 MEMBERS, MAINLY FRENCH GAULLISTS) DID NOT CO-SPONSOR BUT OBVIOUSLY DID NOT OPPOSE THE RESOLUTIONS.

3. IN DEBATE ON THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA, ITALIAN MEMBERS MR. PEDINI (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT) AND MRS. SQUARCIALUPI (COMMUNIST) POINTED OUT THAT SOME 400 EUROPEANS WERE AMONG THOSE WHO HAD DISAPPEARED. THIS FIGURE INCLUDED 321 ITALIAN, 48 GERMAN AND 15 FRENCH NATIONALS AS WELL AS 41 NATIONALS OF SPAIN, AN APPLICANT COUNTRY FOR EC MEMBERSHIP. THE TEXT ADOPTED WAS A COMPROMISE DRAFTED BY THESE TWO ITALIAN MEMBERS WHICH REPLACED EARLIER TEXTS PROPOSED ON BEHALF OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTIES. AN AMENDMENT BY THE DUTCH SOCIALIST, MRS. VAN DEN HEUVEL, CALLING FOR AN EP DELEGATION TO BE SENT TO ARGENTINA TO LOOK MORE CLOSELY INTO THE SITUATION CONCERNING THE DESAPARECIDOS WAS REJECTED. SPEAKING FOR THE EC COMMISSION, VICE PRESIDENT WILLI HAFERKAMP (WHO HOLDS THE PORTFOLIO FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS) ASSURED THE EP THAT THE COMMISSION WILL REMAIN VIGILANT WITH REGARD TO THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA.

4. TEXT OF RESOLUTION ON ARGENTINA FOLLOWS IN OFFICIAL EP ENGLISH VERSION; BEGIN TEXT: RESOLUTION ON THE 'DESAPARECIDOS' (DISAPPEARED PERSONS) IN ARGENTINA.

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

A. DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THE REVELATIONS MADE BY THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS ON THE DISCOVERY, IN ARGENTINA, IN AT LEAST NINE CEMETERIES, OF HUNDREDS OF UNIDENTIFIED CORPSES;

B. WHEREAS THOUSANDS OF PERSONS HAVE GONE MISSING IN ARGENTINA, SINCE THE MILITARY COUP IN 1976, AS A RESULT OF THE HORRIFIC REPRESSION METED OUT BY THE MILITARY IN POWER;

C. NOTING THAT AMONGST THOSE MISSING ARE CITIZENS OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES AND THAT, AS FAR AS EUROPE IS CONCERNED, ITALIAN CITIZENS, CITIZENS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, SPANISH, FRENCH AND SWEDISH CITIZENS HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING;

D. WHEREAS EVENTS OF THIS KIND ARE STILL BEING REPORTED BY THE 'MADRI DELLA PLAZA DE MAJO';

E. WHEREAS THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN REPORTS THAT 34 BABIES AGED BETWEEN 2 MONTHS AND 6 YEARS OLD HAVE DISAPPEARED, IN ADDITION TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ALL THOSE BORN IN PRISONS;

F. WHEREAS THE ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT IS OPPOSED TO ANY INQUIRY THAT MIGHT THROW LIGHT ON THOSE EVENTS;

G. WHEREAS THE ACTION OF THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICES OF CERTAIN MEMBER STATES OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE SO FAR NOT HAD SATISFACTORY RESULTS,

1. CONDEMNS THE ARGENTINE REGIME FOR THESE INTOLERABLE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS;

2. CALLS ON THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO

- (A) MAKE FORMAL REPRESENTATIONS AND VIGOROUS PROTESTS TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO PUT AN END TO THESE PRACTICES AND PROVIDE FORTHWITH DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FATE OF THOSE WHO ARE IN PRISON OR HAVE DISAPPEARED, AND IN PARTICULAR THE COMMUNITY CITIZENS ARRESTED DURING THE LAST SIX YEARS;

- (B) EXERT PRESSURE ON THE ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT TO FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS;

- (C) REQUEST THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, PEREZ DE CUELLAR, TO OPEN AN INTERNATIONAL INQUIRY TO THROW LIGHT ON THOSE EVENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. REQUESTS THAT, IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT-LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION, COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MEASURES BE STUDIED WITH A VIEW TO IMMEDIATE JOINT INTERVENTION WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED;

4. INSTRUCTS ITS PRESIDENT TO FORWARD THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COUNCIL, THE COMMISSION, THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTERS OF THE COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.
END TEXT.

5. TEXT OF RESOLUTION ON URUGUAY FOLLOWS IN OFFICIAL EP ENGLISH VERSION; BEGIN TEXT: RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION IN URUGUAY.
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

A. HAVING REGARD TO ITS RESOLUTION OF 11 MARCH 1982 ON URUGUAY,

B. WHEREAS THE CONCERN EXPRESSED ON THAT OCCASION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE PROCESS OF APPROVING THE LAW ON THE PARTIES, AND IN PARTICULAR:

(I) THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION HAS DETERIORATED: MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE CONTINUE TO BE HELD UNDER VERY HARSH CONDITIONS OF IMPRISONMENT, 'RETENTION' IS REGULARLY PRACTISED WHEREBY PRISONERS ARE NOT RELEASED ON COMPLETION OF THEIR SENTENCE, THE PRACTICE OF HOLDING HOSTAGES PERSISTS, AS DOES TORTURE AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF PRISONERS;

(II) OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS OPINAR, LA DEMOCRACIA, LA PLAZA AND LA RAZON HAVE BEEN CLOSED DOWN FOR LONG PERIODS OR ENTIRELY;

(III) VERY SERIOUS DEVELOPMENTS HAVE OCCURRED IN THE LAST MONTH, IN PARTICULAR THE TOTAL CLOSING DOWN OF THE CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRAT WEEKLY OPCION, THE ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT RELEASE OF CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRAT AND INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE COMISION POR EL VOTO EN BLANCO, THE DETENTION OF FOUR IMPORTANT LEADERS OF THE "PARTIDO NACIONAL" CONDEMNED BY MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN ELECTORAL SPEECHES;

1. STRESSES THAT THE FACTS REFERRED TO ABOVE GRAVELY UNDERMINE THE PROCESS OF LIBERALIZATION ANNOUNCED BY THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT, THE FIRST STAGE OF WHICH WAS TO BE THE "INTERNAL ELECTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTIES" TO BE HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 1982;
2. EMPHASIZES THAT ONLY A PROCESS OF GENUINE POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION WITHOUT ANY EXCLUSION, WITHOUT TRADE UNION

OR POLITICAL PRISONERS, WITHOUT PROSCRIPTION, AND ONLY RESPECT FOR THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE AS CLEARLY EXPRESSED ON 30 NOVEMBER 1980 CAN LEAD THE COUNTRY TOWARDS DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION;

3. CALLS ON THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE ALL POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION PRISONERS, AND IN PARTICULAR GENERAL LIBER SEREGNI AND JOSE LUIS MASSERA, THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND WORLD-FAMOUS MATHEMATICIAN;

4. CALLS ON THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE URGENT STEPS PERMITTING A RETURN TO A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, PARTICULARLY BY RECONSTITUTING THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PARTIES;

5. INSTRUCTS ITS PRESIDENT TO FORWARD THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COUNCIL AND COMMISSION AND TO THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT. END TEXT.

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